

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, the approach that the Appropriations Committee voted this morning to make to you in recommendations will include four separate motions on LB 1251, rated in the most important priority of those four being the first one. Contained in the first motion are overrides for certain agencies for operational costs in state government, and also a part of the motion is to override the specific cut of 7,055,000 of the Medicaid of the Governor's vetoes, and included with that automatically, because it is a single line-item and there is no way to change it, is the 3 percent reduction that the counties also had of 475,000 for a total of 7.5 million dollars. But initially the proposal on state operations that are provided...suggested to you are consistent with a broad policy that the Appropriations Committee has attempted to reflect during their discussions of the appropriations since January, but particularly it was more specifically spoke about later in the session. But included in that, and I will just go through them quickly, are three programs within the Department of Education, the first of which is somewhat unique. It was the intent, and I know it was an inadvertent situation, but in program 294, dealing with vocational education, as I understand it in order to maintain maintenance of effort is one of the federal requirements. With the veto that particular program, within the Department of Education, runs around 5,300 or 5,500 dollars short of a maintenance of effort. And since you cannot split the amount that is to be overridden the recommendation is in total for that 10,000 amount. The next two programs are also recommended to be overridden. In fact the Department...excuse me, the School for the Deaf and the Schools for the Visually Handicapped, in both cases the rationale for those are in the area of education as two broad categories that we felt were important. The Department of Agriculture, are two programs, both are dealing with inspections of food and dairy products. Specifically it was our understanding that if the veto stood that most likely some of the dairy, at least one dairy position may not be fulfilled in the event of a vacancy, the same with the agricultural laboratories. And consistent with health and prevention of disease, why those two programs seemed appropriate to override. In the Department of Health there were two programs again, the full total of the veto there. But the program 177, which is 59,832, is a series of health programs that are conducted by the Department of Health, but includes such things as vaccinations for school children, some of the various health programs that they have, preventive health